

August, 2, 1931

(1)

Aug. second Went out after razor
fishes in ^{coarse} sand are south of shore
1600 yds north of Soggy Head
saw a number of nests of fish but
none together. One larger razor fish
would dig my forefingers and move
around end of measuring rod,
as I stirred up a little patch
for him & he smelled it over,
while doing so I shot the picture
but I think he went out of air before
had. But then I was so mad
I could have cried — he can
right back started to actively dig
then mouth full of sand right & left,
grab a crust & dash away
with it, the picture of a lifetime
which all I can do is tell about it.
looked around again but though
I saw several nice nests got no
pictures

Aug. 2nd afternoon, went out
above Drygas Head Key about to look
for ~~Abudefduf~~ guarding eggs found
lot under head to which H. Single directed
me but did not seem to object to other
fishes hanging around & going under
head with them.

Passed over the heads to westward
& got S.W. of those ^{2nd} but did not
see any Gnathypops I went after.
so went out against heads to seek
school of fish, ^{grey} snappers? & yellow grunts
Parrot fish, Angel & butterfly, blue tang
& no end of others. As I was setting
up tripod noticed grunts going for another
with mouths wide open, so waited
for it again. a long wait but finally
did it again, but attached fish
half under rock so might have missed
half of interest in picture; however school
had dissipated & got only a couple of fish
in my 50 feet. This was last half morning
roll, so came in & reloaded.

Third day

(3)

Second day of afternoon went way up
to greater heads up reef; in looking for
school of fish, found a cave with large
few fish in it visible bet. cracks & crevices
between the large heads. Got my rig set
up but he moved back under rock & finally
went out of tunnel to back, was seemed
food little black & blue striped fish feeding over
him. Meanwhile a ~~Red Grouper~~ ^{Red Grouper}
hunking around. in fact 2-3 feet away.
After failing to get few fish looked around
for another fish, couldn't find him at
first (in head you can only look down with
difficulty) & there he was under my
tripod & about 6 inches from my knee
also ~~stretching~~ under the tripod let me cope
within 1 inch of him with my finger. Thought
I would back off & take him & what do
you think he followed me up & got in
under the tripod again six feet back
of its former place, so I tried man-
euvering him and with my measuring
sticks, let me push him back a little way
but when I tried it again and he roughed

to return to "Della" of the tripod, his
feelings must have gotten hurt, for
he went off among the horn pines
like gorgonians. So his interesting
chances went glimmering. In getting
up on feet I shoved a small coral
head out of the way & in doing so
turned it. Now with nothing to
shoot at, an angel fish luckily came
to the rescue, & began feeding over the
under side of the "coral rock". I let
go with the button & the reel began
to buzz. Then all of a sudden the
tripod slipped, ~~threw~~ ^{as I caught it} & I pitched
it. I don't know how much I got because
the fish started to move about, ~~but~~ I
did try to follow him up with camera.
Porter will have with him much success.

Angel fish yellow inside of pectoral fins
has sort of suckerlike mouth

A movie of myself taking water under
pines would probably entertain you more
than these few snapshots I shall have to
show you.

Aug. 3 Monday Sea=Quiet as a mill
 Pond but sky heavily overcast; did
 not get a shot all forenoon as fish
 gaps in clouds + setting up trinkod
 did not coincide. Had somewhat
 early lunch and hauled out a lobster
 to take advantage of a temporary clear
 spell. First shot a few fish I had
 noticed schooling around a few stunts
 alongmain on Lth of first heads out
 from dock, up as + behind heads for
 the south. Fired 8-11; 3 ^{consequent} foot shot at
 1:10 p.m. Then came in + reloaded +
 rushed up reef to "greater heads" in an
 attempt to catch few fish in hole in
 wall but found him not at home, but
 there were a number of yellow tails
 mottled + a blackish one with black
 lines ^{Haemulon macrodon} ~~had~~ yellow squares; one of
 former started out of crevice + then
 backed up on seeing camera; the
 mottled ~~about~~ seeing the suitable.

shot, saw a ^{large} P. reg. under, being along
too far to reach with line. so set my
camera down, tripod + all. The
wandered about + saw nothing but
of chubs, swimming by looked like a likely
shot if the long line of them passed the
camera at suitable distance, measured
up a place (got tangled in diadema
mean while) + went back for camera.
+ who should be at suitable photo distance
but friend fear fish with his attached
little fellows on back + sides; but my
usual picture high the camera was
right angled to line of shot + as I
turned camera he gave a ponderous
blast of tail, + ducked ^{under} ^{my} ^{crevice} ^{under} ^{my} ^{feet} ^{along}
heads, ~~up~~ a great distance but still
not directly communicating with hole
in wall. ~~seemingly~~ ^{disappointed}
naturally + picked up camera +
tripod + went back to get chubs.
Thought I would appreciate, when ne
(over h2)

works hard under water, you do not
seem to get enough air + just have
to gasp ^{+ heave} for it, + then not seem to get
enough was tempted to go up for breath
of need above water air; but thought
I'd stick it out till I got the chub
line, ~~got up to camp~~ ^{was getting} camera line
up when whom should I suddenly
behold face to face, it was too good
to miss my former acquaintance
of yesterday. he was so close I
fear I only got a badly focussed
eye, so close + big did he appear.
That ended that hunched feet.
So I came back to reload. Then started
and for Pempkins in hollow pond
in lot of several heads together filled
with eels + smaller heads, got a
shot at them + tried for ~~same~~ effect
as I did in ~~at 1.10~~ ^{at 1.10}, both times camera
jerked so picture is shaky. ^{was in photo}
but after this at about 4:40 ^{after both attempts} light failed utterly

collected in pond

Aug. 4, 1931

FM - GPT

(8)

This a.m. bet. 10 + 10.30 when
sun was clear of clouds though I am
sure it was dimmed in last half
of picture. I photographed little
natural amphitheater, we played with
bottle day before in coral heads off
dock, saw several fish schooling
parrot fish passed in an out of
picture + tang was feeding under
algamarian, little black fish
wavy fins + tail chased him off.

Should have been quite a show
of fishes. Squinned fish a
similar was under rock but
passed out in rock crevice though
I saw him camera failed to get
him.

Clouds were very troublesome
all day except when I didn't have boat
11 am to 2.30 p.m. First rain out of
gassing to Port, then heavy, then light (8)
came in. + didn't get right combination
together, of light + fish. Sued fish in heel
dressed with two brown

noticed confusion of ground going
broke up when I had intervened
between them. Tended them to room
about in files or lines. When sun
got brighter began to school again;
also these fellows while I sat & watched
hoping to get a few more or different
fish in group got tired of being
watched & began to move away onto
other side of alcyonarian chunk,
didn't like to be watched (but never
felt enough to show you all this).
Shall try to take this tomorrow.

~~have~~ seem to find me much braver,
smell new to their experience & for as
an their experience goes, something that
never harmed them in spite of bulky
hood & long hose and constantly moving
them of bubbles.

After you just enter
all you can do is hope
+ pray that action will
stay for night (in field
of camera)

Aug. 5, 1931 Clear day occasional ⁽⁹⁾
Insects some large

Started to fix camera so as
to be able to start & stop pictures.
Took several hours & at 10 when finished
tried out camera & it leaked just
as some new packing rubber & it worked
fine for me well but cracked & leaked
a little about eighth of an inch in
bottom. So had to come back for
other rubber. There was none which
I thought of a possible hot water bag
& Capt. Mills the versatile had
a duck bag of several years standing
on ship. Worked like a charm.

Finally got my fish in the tree
that I had tried so hard to
get for some days, but before
I could "hook" him out of
tree I was unsuccessful. Got
it beautifully today at 11 a.m. seal
so, camera set six feet ^{11.30} ~~2.00~~ p.m.

While taking a couple of "angels" kept ⁽¹⁰⁾
buzzing around my head, so I
could not resist the temptation to
shoot them, but could not orient
camera properly & quickly enough to
get picture lined up straight.
I think I got something of them if
they didn't get too close. Fish
are certainly ^{naively} inquisitive ~~clearly~~ if you
yourself ~~are~~ ^{act} not too forward with their
trusting natures. Of course in all
these pictures the camera would have
to jerry due to the antiquated tripod
with which I had to contend, until Capt
Mills fixed that too.

After this I
set things for four feet to get a few
smaller fish on side of coral head &
also tiled worms, but ~~because~~ ^{just little farther} a fair
distance was too great, at that ^{around 200} ⁸ ^{11. PM.} ^{1/4}
Couple of angle fish under rock, school
too & grouper came to look see; may
also have gotten a small pomacentrid ^{over for} ⁽¹¹⁾

picture; Then moved over to
side of very large head & got
couple of 1 tiny black & blue
blue striped fish; clinging to it at times
feeding there perhaps & before it. / OK
was when the shot (50 feet was ex-
hausted) that I noticed leak when
we opened up to get our camera.
Because that meant rushing in & getting
drouche bags & it tested out fine &
seems to work. O.K. So I relinked.
Camera & we started up to greater
heads up reef to see if we could
get good alcyonarian growth, ~~was~~
not so tall exact sea fans & as
up to be effected, missed a wonderful
shot of ^{rept} paprot fishes like of them
standing on heads in their way of
looking about, clump sense, for their
~~curiously~~ satisfied they moved off
~~after I got below, tried~~ as
I tried to get my tripod & camera
in position. Got a small frogie & it

my film was not to near done I
must have gotten a few frames of
a hassan grouper. I was getting
~~to~~ ^{to} ~~at~~ five p.m. when we got off
of island near dock; about 20 or 15 min
up. ^{at 4.00 or 4.15} ~~at 4.00 or 4.15~~
things must have been near
think I had clear by most of time
though sun was in a light haze when
I did get up. (F. 8 1/2 ~~or~~ camera 6 feet.

August 5, 1931

Very muggy all morning
in fact didn't get out till after 2 p.m.
when Mr. Smiley took me and I found
me a Gnathypops, saw it for
the boat above water as clear.
After setting up camera had to
wait it seemed half an hour for
fish to get reassembled ^{change} ~~the~~ ^{up}
creature just five feet from him but
did not follow him.

(13)

After rearing himself he
did come up & look about a couple
of times, then came out to chase
a fish that got closer than he
~~thought~~ seemed to think desirable
(did not mind smaller fish that
fed about his hole, first part of this
trip). Then he came up & out
several times to blow out a puff of
sand that had cleared out of his
burrow. With stopping & starting did
get a full circuit ^{for} length of time
in burrow. Was close to him when
I quit. F 8 1/2 11, hazy misty clouds
over about sun, 4:15 p.m.

August. 7th 1931 Surge chuds
 cumulus; waited for gaps or
 spaces between them.
 went back this a.m. to take
 Gnathypops & found him feeding
 & I couldn't get him ^{completely} ~~near his~~
 hole short of nearly stepping
 on him; waving arms & legs &
 even measuring rod unless almost
 poked in ^{his} face. & when he did
 go down he stayed a long time.
 Took about 30 feet of film in
 snaps. at F a shade, thickness of
 line ^{away from} 11 line! / Seems to
 feed ^(Camera 4 feet) in green room or clean house
 in afternoon, at least largely
 so as per pictures. I took
 some snapshots under the edge of chuda list
 house at night

After this we moved over to
 Xyrichtys (razor fish ground) &

saw a number of nests &
 also loose large fish, followed
 one of the latter to try to run him
 home, but he showed more of a
 disposition to want to examine
 and stirred up by my foot steps
 than to keep out of my way. I
 actually had to poke him with
 my measuring rod, to keep him
~~and~~ the move (and not loitering)
 Japped him a least half dozen
 times, each time I could catch
 up on him, could feel the thump
 a hand if you will each time it
 connected ~~that~~ ^{that} he kept ~~as~~
~~the~~ move but kept a more or
 less ahead of me, till I had
 to quit for lack of ~~sufficient~~ ^{force}
 reached the end of my rope as to
 speak. Then came back to the

(16)

boat, on the way found a number
of good sized nests, but no fish
about & like the proverbial
punch of doves right under the
ladder (from the boat) I found two
nest about six feet apart which
a medium to small sized fish (a) was
tending to stay one by.
(I didn't have time to find a large
nest & fish together clouds & light
too uncertain.)

Just as I was setting up camera
one of these on which I trained my
camera moved a piece of coral & I
got him to do it again by disturbing
the base of his "stone ledge" tumbled
a piece or two in the middle & he moved
them up. Suffered from two handicaps
lack of as much film & as wanted &
lack of time to hand the scenes I'd
liked to have shot.

Aug. 7 1931. In afternoon.

Went hunting staghorn coral, but first took last 30 feet on main film at a dog-fish & parrot together, feeding on a small rock. N.G.F thickness of line away for 11 turns.

Sun under regular thin misty clouds.

2.30 p.m. 2.40 p.m. feet inches of stone climbing aboard
can set for 12 feet, F. 16

at 4.10 after looking around in deep water out from dock 18 feet deep. And seeing nothing suitable, went over to that large patch on S. side of channel toward Bird Key Reef.

Shadows cast by sun but there was a thin veil of cloud over it in all directions. Got some fish under staghorn coral. Water very muddy. Camera 6 feet. Fe 1/2 way to it at 4.10 p.m. about.

(30 feet)

Aug. 8, 1931 I did not get out
all forenoon with one thing or another
yesterday's dredgings + taking
pictures of "fleet" John got
too far in! + had to wait for Bill
Burr and Billy got them in separate
shots + then took panorama of all the
buildings with Capt. Mills by monument

~~Got it~~

30 feet? got super shots of F.H. fish
at bottom growth + few fish
fish wasted

In afternoon Phil + I went south
ground to find Abudofdu with eggs
found only one? at greater heads up
deep but neither fish nor eggs were
very get-at-able. Came down to
growth of heads to westward of single
large head 400 yds off Point. Saw
none but tried to take a "flock" of
young runners, but they ran too
close to the camera. This was after
a - of a long wait (hard on Phil) finally
got something important of focus because

sign of red in bottom + clouds + tried to
pick better light for sea all day + tried to
take better light for sea all day + tried to

I mean, then I fished camera
 up & after that turned to pick
 up tripod & measuring stick to put
 them up for Phil to grab. As I turned
 I saw a 3 ft. humacunda who had
 been watching me the whole time I
 supposed. Naturally I just about
 catapulted up the ladder & yelled
 for Phil to lower the camera right
 away but my going up & down hit
 the fellows equilibrium & he started
 to make off. I rested the camera
 on my stomach & let her go
 any way. The picture will be an
 awful wobbly of any picture at
 all. (I'm afraid wasn't set to catch
 him.) While at "great heads"
 saw plenty of purple yellow bell
 flies & my first trunk fish. A second
 place saw several squirrel fish?
 Tried deep water to westward, but saw
 no low & hole stickbom, but no new fish.

of the positive real have
150 feet of each of the
nest building fish + the
burrowing on that is much
better, and shows in addition
my pushing down the side of the
nest in the first case and
sprinkling sand in the whole
of the other. This is new
negative taken during my second
year and better than what is
in the old positive, ^{which is repeated.} my first year
work and under water movies.

something over two hundred feet
additional of other fish and back-
grounds. Of the humming fish
150, and the next building fish
150 more ~~over~~ of better film and
~~besides~~ than that in the positive
and several

They ^{must be all} I have 200 feet of
stuff as good as what you
have of other species of fish
all had new & not printed